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AUG 16 2004

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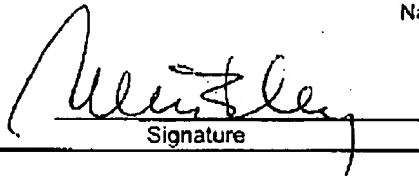
TO:	Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
ATTENTION:	Examiner: Baxter, Jessica R, Group Art Unit: 3731
FAX-NO.:	(703) 872-9306
FROM:	Ursula B. Day, Reg. No.: 47,296
APPL. NO.	09/935,869
FILED:	August 23, 2001
DOCKET NO:	ARUMI
TYPE OF PAPER:	<b>RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION, dated May 14, 2004</b>
DATE:	August 16, 2004
NO. OF PAGES (including this page):	15 pages
MESSAGE:	<b>DELIVER DIRECTLY TO EXAMINER</b>

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**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Docket No.: ARUMI

In re Request for Continued Examination	)
in PATENT Application of:	)
JOSE GARCIA ARUMI ET AL	) Examiner: Jessica R. Baxter
Appl. No.: 09/935,869	) Group Art Unit: 3731
Filed: August 23, 2001	)
For: MICRO SURGICAL INSTRUMENT	)

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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**  
Dated May 14, 2004

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MAIL STOP/FEE AMENDMENTS  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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S I R:

This communication is in response to the Official Action of May 14, 2004 having a shortened period for response expiring August 14, 2004. Since the expiration day fell on a Saturday, a response on the next business day, which is August 16, 2004, is proper.

The Commissioner is hereby also authorized to charge any fees which may be required during the pendency of this application, including any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, and any filing fees under

Docket No.: ARUMI  
Serial No.: 09/935,869

37 C.F.R. 1.16, including presentation of extra claims, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No: 06-0502.

- ☐ Accompanying this amendment is the appropriate fee of \$ pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(c) and 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a).
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the appropriate fee of \$86.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(c) and 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for one additional independent claim and any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby also authorized to charge any fees which may be required during the pendency of this application, including any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, and any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16, including presentation of extra claims, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No: 06-0502.

Please amend the above-entitled application as follows: